

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ
يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا (سورة الأحزاب: 56)

JOURNEY TO MADINAH & Visiting the Masjid of the Prophet and His Holy Grave

WRITTEN BY:
DR. MAULANA
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Written by:

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Journey to Madinah & Visiting the Masjid of the Prophet and His Holy Grave

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Contents

PREFACE	IV
FOREWORD	VI
REFLECTIONS	VIII
REFLECTIONS	X
REFLECTIONS	XII
1. JOURNEY TO MEDINA & VISITING THE MASJID OF THE PROPHET AND HIS HOLY GRAVE	1
MERITS OF MEDINA	1
THE VIRTUES OF VISITING THE PROPHET’S (PBUH) MOSQUE.....	2
THE VIRTUES OF VISITING THE HOLY GRAVE	3
VISITING THE MASJID OF THE PROPHET (PBUH)	5
SALAT & SALAM (SALUTATION AND PRAYERS)	5
IMPORTANT TIPS.....	7
ACTIVITIES TO PERFORM IN MEDINA	7
WOMEN’S ISSUES	8
RETURN FROM MEDINA	8
2. HISTORICAL PLACES IN MEDINA.....	9
THE MASJID OF THE PROPHET	9
THE CHAMBER OF THE PROPHET (PBUH)	10
RIYADH AL-JANNAH (FLOWERBED FROM PARADISE).....	11
THE SHED OF ASHAB AL-SUFFAH	11
JANNAT AL-BAQIA (BAQI-AL-GHARQAD)	11
MOUNT UHUD	12
MASJID QUBA.....	12
MASJID AL-JUMAA.....	12
MASJID AL-FATH (MASJID AL-AHZAB)	13
MASJID AL-QIBLATAYN	13
MASJID UBAYY IBN KA’B	13
AUTHOR’S INTRODUCTION	15

Preface

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
أَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ، وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ الْكَرِيمِ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) came with a universal message. His message was not restricted to a certain tribe or a nation. It was not meant for a limited period either. Rather the message he was shouldered with was general and timeless.

After the departure of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) from this world, entire Muslim Ummah, in general, and Ulama, in particular, were entrusted with the noble responsibility of preserving that eternal message of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and passing it on to the subsequent generations. So the interpreters of the Qur'an and scholars of Hadith and Fiqh of different eras have served Islam using the best available resources at their times.

Modern technologies such as websites, WhatsApp, Facebook, YouTube and mobile apps are being used currently for sharing Islamic messages and spreading teachings of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). But it needs to be accelerated to maximize the advantages of these technologies.

Some of my sincere friends extended their technical and financial support to me so that I may also take my part in service of Islam by using modern technologies. Our team launched our website (www.najeebqasmi.com) in 2013 and two mobile applications ([Deen-e-Islam](#) and [Hajj-e-Mabroor](#)) in 3 languages in 2015. 18 Ulamas of India and Pakistan and different Islamic institutions have given their reviews about these two apps appreciating the glorious efforts made by me and my team in bringing out such Islamic apps.

While preparing these apps, my articles (around 200) were translated into English and Hindi languages. They were edited by the experts. Hindi translations of the said articles are simple and easy to understand.

By the grace of Allah, English and Hindi translations of these articles have been compiled into 14 books in each language according to subject, totaling them to 28 books in all. Apart from this, seven books were written earlier in Urdu. Nine more books are being compiled in Urdu. These books are collections of various articles which were published in newspapers and magazines at different times.

Every Muslim aspires to visit Medinat-ul-Munawarah. The current book, "Journey to Madinah & Visiting the Masjid of the Prophet and His Holy Grave" covers important aspects of this holy visit in a brief way. The readers will find it extremely useful while planning to and visiting Medina.

I pray to Allah to accept this small effort made by me with the sole intention of serving Islam. I also pray to Allah for the scholars who wrote encouraging reviews, well-wishers who provided their technical and financial support for this project, translators, editors and designers.

Special thanks to Hazrat Maulana Abul Qasim Numani (Muhtamim of Darul Uloom Deoband), Maulana Mohammad Asrarul Haque Qasmi, M.P. (India) and Professor Akhtar Alwasay (Ex-director of Zakir Hussain Institute of Islamic Studies) for their valuable reviews on the books.

I also express special gratitude to Mr. Adnan Mahmood Usmani for editing these books and to Dr. Shafa'atullah Khan for his consistent support throughout this project.

Mohammad Najeeb Qasmi, Riyadh

01-06-1437 = 10-03-2016

Foreword

**In the name of Allah, the Most Beneficent, Most Merciful
Praise be to Allah, Peace and blessings of Allah be upon His
Messenger, Muhammad, and all his family and companions.**

We are living in an age of tremendous cataclysm and uncertainty. People everywhere are groping anxiously for something that can save humanity, which has lost its way and is on the brink of unprecedented disaster. It is also true to say that we live in an era of the ultimate material civilization and progress, but in terms of values and morals, mankind appears to be diminishing day by day. Islam claims to provide answers and solutions, ones which are compatible with reason, logic, and the realities of the human life. In Islam, there are no obscure or mysterious things that we have only to believe without being allowed to ask about them. It is the Quran, Hadith and Sunnah which provide answers in convincing, conclusive and incomparable style.

Dr Najeeb Qasmi wrote many articles on contemporary issues and tried to guide humanity to the right path. But all his articles were limited to Urdu language and it was required to translate his work into English to convey the teachings of Islam to a broader horizon. The task of translating and editing into English at individual articles level and then compiling them into 14 volumes was an arduous one but with the blessing of Almighty Allah, I was able to accomplish this task within the specific time and I am thankful to my family for all their cooperation. Without their kind support it would not have been possible to complete it in time.

May Allah accept our efforts to spread the message of Islam and guide us all to the right path.

Adnan Mahmood Usmani

Consulting Editor

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

16 March, 2016, 6 Jumada' II, 1437

(Mufti) Abul Qasim Nomani

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باسمہ سبحانہ و تعالیٰ

جناب مولانا محمد نجیب قاسمی سنبھلی مقیم ریاض (سعودی عرب) نے دینی معلومات اور شرعی احکام کو زیادہ سے زیادہ اہل ایمان تک پہنچانے کے لئے جدید وسائل کا استعمال شروع کر کے، دینی کام کرنے والوں کے لیے ایک اچھی مثال قائم فرمائی ہے۔

چنانچہ سعودی عرب سے شائع ہونے والے اردو اخبار (اردو نيوز) کے دینی کالم (روشنی) میں مختلف عنوانات پر ان کے مضامین مسلسل شائع ہوتے رہتے ہیں۔ اور موبائل ایپ اور ویب سائٹ کے ذریعہ بھی وہ اپنا دینی پیغام زیادہ سے زیادہ لوگوں تک پہنچا رہے ہیں۔ ایک اچھا کام یہ ہوا ہے کہ زمانہ کی ضرورت کے تحت مولانا نے اپنے اہم اور منتخب مضامین کے ہندی اور انگریزی میں ترجمے کرا دیے ہیں، جو الیکٹرونک بک کی شکل میں جلد ہی لانچ ہونے والے ہیں۔

اور امید ہے کہ مستقبل میں یہ پرنٹ بک کی شکل میں بھی دستیاب ہوں گے۔
اللہ تعالیٰ مولانا قاسمی کے علوم میں برکت عطا فرمائے اور ان کی خدمات کو قبول فرمائے۔ مزید علمی افتادات کی توفیق بخشے۔

ابورکاتب عثمانی

ابوالقاسم نعمانی غفرلہ
مہتمم دارالعلوم دیوبند

۱۴۳۷ھ/۲۰۱۶ء

Reflections

Maulana Mohammad Najeeb Qasmi, current resident of Saudi Arabia, made a great accomplishment of conveying Islamic information to the believers by using modern technologies. It, in fact, serves a good example for those who are working in the religious field.

His articles dealing with diverse Islamic subjects have been regularly published in Saudi Arabia based Newspaper, "Urdu News". He has been serving Islam through his Mobile applications and website which he launched to spread message of Islam to a larger group of humanity. Recently, he got all his important articles translated into English and Hindi languages which are going to be launched in the form of electronic books. I hope these collections will be published in future in print edition as well.

May Allah bless Maulana Qasmi with more barakah in his knowledge and grant acceptance to his works.

Abul Qasim Nomani

Mohtamim of Darul Uloom Deoband

03-06-1437 = 13-03-2016

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تائراٹ

عصر حاضر میں دینی تعلیمات کو جدید آلات و وسائل کے ذریعہ عوام الناس تک پہنچانا وقت کا اہم تقاضہ ہے، اللہ کا شکر ہے کہ بعض دینی، معاشرتی اور اصلاحی فکر رکھنے والے حضرات نے اس سمت میں کام کرنا شروع کر دیا ہے، جس کے جب آئن انٹرنیٹ پر دین کے تعلق سے کافی مواد موجود ہے۔ اگرچہ اس میدان میں زیادہ تر مغربی ممالک کے مسلمان سرگرم ہیں لیکن اب ان کے نقش قدم پر چلتے ہوئے مشرقی ممالک کے علماء و ایمان اسلام بھی اس طرف متوجہ ہو رہے ہیں جن میں عزیزم ڈاکٹر محمد نجیب قاسمی صاحب کا نام سرفہرست ہے۔ وہ انٹرنیٹ پر بہت سادہ سادہ مواد ڈال چکے ہیں، باضابطہ طور پر ایک اسلامی و اصلاحی ویب سائٹ بھی چلا رہے ہیں۔ ڈاکٹر محمد نجیب قاسمی کا قلم رواں دواں ہے۔ وہ اب تک مختلف اہم موضوعات پر سینکڑوں مضامین اور کئی کتابیں لکھ چکے ہیں۔ ان کے مضامین پوری دنیا میں بڑی دلچسپی کے ساتھ پڑھے جاتے ہیں۔ وہ جدید تکنیکی سہولتوں سے فائدہ اٹھاتے ہوئے اپنی ویب سائٹ پر کئی کتابوں کو بہت جلد دنیا بھر میں ایسے ایسے لوگوں تک پہنچا دیتے ہیں جن تک رسائی آسان کام نہیں ہے۔ موصوف کی شخصیت علوم و دینی کے ساتھ علم عصری سے بھی آراستہ ہے۔ وہ ایک طرف عالم دین ہیں، تو دوسری طرف ڈاکٹر و محقق بھی اور کئی زبانوں میں مہارت بھی رکھتے ہیں اور اس پر مستزاد یہ کہ وہ فعال و متحرک نوجوان ہیں۔ جس طرح وہ اردو، ہندی، انگریزی اور عربی میں دینی و اصلاحی مضامین اور کتابیں لکھ کر عوام کے سامنے لا رہے ہیں، وہ اس کے لئے حسین اور مبارک باد کے مستحق ہیں۔ ان کی شب و روز کی مصروفیات و جدوجہد کو دیکھتے ہوئے ان سے یہ امید کی جاسکتی ہے کہ وہ مستقبل میں بھی اسی مستعدی کے ساتھ مذکورہ تمام کاموں کو جاری رکھیں گے۔ میں دعاگو ہوں کہ باری تعالیٰ ان سے مزید دینی، اصلاحی اور علمی کام لے اور وہ اکابرین کے نقش قدم پر گامزن رہیں۔ آمین!

مخلص

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Reflections

In the present era, modern technologies are very effective tools to spread one's ideology. I appreciate that some Islamic scholars already took initiative to create religious awareness in the Muslim society using these new technologies. We can find wide range of Islamic information already available at internet. Majority of those scholars are from Western countries. Now Ulama of Eastern countries are following their footsteps. Dr. Mohammad Najeeb Qasmi is one of them. He has already created his own Islamic website.

Dr. Mohammad Najeeb Qasmi is a religious scholar and researcher. He has written many articles and books on various Islamic topics which are read by a massive number of people throughout the world. His knowledge and understanding of innovative technologies assists him to convey his messages to Muslim community in the world. His efforts to bring his articles and books in Urdu, Hindi and English languages are admirable. We expect that his enthusiasm towards serving Islam will continue in the future. May Allah bless Dr. Qasmi with more knowledge of Islam.

(Maulana) Mohammad Asrarul Haque Qasmi

M.P. (India)

President of All India Education & Social Foundation – New Delhi

پرو. اکھتارول واسے

آیوکت

PROF. AKHTARUL WASEY
Commissioner



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भारत सरकार

Commissioner for Linguistic
Minorities in India

Ministry of Minority Affairs
Government of India

تقریظ

اطلاعاتی انقلاب برپا ہونے کے بعد جس طرح ہم کی معلومات انٹرنیٹ کے ذریعہ آنکھوں کی دوچیلوں میں سمائی ہیں۔ اس نے ”گماگر میں ساگر“ اور ”گوز میں دریا“ کے تجزیاتی تصورات کو نہ صرف حقیقت بنا دیا ہے بلکہ ان پر ہمارا انداز روز بروز ناگزیر ہوتا جا رہا ہے۔ گوگل (Google) ہو یا ویکی پیڈیا (Wikipedia) یا پھر دوسری سوشل سائٹس انہوں نے ترسیل و ابلاغ کو وہ حصہ جسے رنج اور فری کا تیزی عطا کی ہے کہ فراقی فیصل کے تمام تصورات بے معنی ہو کر رہ گئے ہیں۔ لیکن اس اطلاعی انقلاب نے ایک پیچیدہ مسئلہ یہ پیدا کر دیا ہے کہ اطلاعات رسائی اور خبروں تک رسائی میں حقائق سے گریز یا ان کو سچ کرنے کا چیلن بھی اس طرح شامل ہو گیا ہے اور اس سچائی کو اسلام اور مسلمانوں سے بہتر کون جانتا ہے۔ دوسرا سنگین مسئلہ یہ ہے کہ باخبر ہونے اور معلومات حاصل کرنے کے لئے اب مطالعہ کی عادت لوگوں میں خاصی کم ہوتی جا رہی ہے۔ کیونکہ موبائل کے روپ میں دنیا ان کی مٹھی میں سمائی رہتی ہے اور وہ سب کچھ اسی کے ذریعہ جانتا چاہتے ہیں۔ اس چیلنج اور مسئلے کے حل کے لئے ضروری ہے کہ ہم غلط بیانیوں اور حقائق کو دبا کر آشکار کرنے کے لئے اور اپنے ہم مذہبوں خاص طور پر نسل کو صحیح معلومات فراہم کرنے، انہیں رہنمائی دینے اور ان کے شعور میں بالیدگی اور پختگی لانے کے لئے اس اطلاعی انقلاب کے جتنے بھی وسائل و ذرائع ہیں ان کا بھرپور استعمال کریں۔

مجھے خوشی ہے کہ ہمارے ایک موقر اور معتبر عالم حضرت دین مولا نا محمد نجیب قاسمی نے جواز ہر بند اور اہل علم و دینہ کے قابل فخر اپنے قدیم میں سے ہیں اور عرصہ سے مملکت سعودی عرب کی راجدھانی ریاض میں برسر کار ہیں، انہوں نے اس ضرورت کو کوئی سمجھا اور دنیا کی پہلی اسلامی موبائل ایپ ”دین اسلام“ اور ”جہیز“ اور ”اردو انگریزی اور ہندی میں تیار کیا تھا اور اب وقت گزرنے کے ساتھ نئے سوالات کی روشنی اور علمی ضرورتوں کے تحت نئے مضامین اور نئے بیانات شامل کر کے ایک وفد پھر نئے انداز کے ساتھ پیش کرنے جا رہے ہیں۔ مزید برآں زندگی کے مختلف پہلوؤں پر دین کے حوالے سے دوسرے مضامین کے الیکٹرونک ایڈیشن کو بھی منظر عام پر لایا جا رہا ہے۔ مجھے دق تو تھا مگر مولا نا محمد نجیب قاسمی صاحب کے مقالے، الیکٹرونک مضامین اور علمی فتوحات سے استفادہ کرنے کا موقع ملتا رہا ہے۔ مجھے ان کے متوازن، اعتدال پسند اور عالمانہ انداز تحریر نے ہمیشہ متاثر کیا۔ میں مولا نا نجیب قاسمی کی خدمت میں ہر یہ تحریک و تشکر پیش کرتا ہوں اور خدا سے دعا کرتا ہوں کہ وہ ان کی عمر میں درازی و علم میں اضافہ اور قلم میں مزید پختگی عطا فرمائے۔ کیونکہ:

ستاروں سے آگے جہاں اور بھی ہیں

ابھی عشق کے اقیانوں اور بھی ہیں

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Reflections

The revolution of information technology has provided easy access to all kinds of information. Maxims like “Ocean in a pot” does not seem to be an imagination anymore. Our dependence on the technology is increasing. Google, Wikipedia and other social websites are the fastest tools of information and communication. But this abundance of information has created confusion. Instead of conveying truth to people, it is being used to spread distorted reality. This is harming Islam and Muslim mostly. Second major issue is that internet has affected the habit of book reading. In such scenario, we need a positive use of these resources of information, so that we can expose the truth to people and guide the Muslim community especially young generation to the right path.

I am glad that our respected scholar Maulana Muhammad Najeeb Qasmi who is one of the alumni of Darul Uloom Deoband and has been residing in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia for quite a long time felt this need. He launched the first Islamic mobile application “[Deen-e-Islam](#)” and “[Hajj-e-Mabroor](#)” in Urdu, Hindi and English languages. Considering the needs of time, he is again presenting it with the addition of new articles and speeches. Moreover, he is going to launch electronic edition of two hundred articles on different religious aspects. I often read his electronic articles. His moderate and scholarly articles always touch me. I express my gratitude to Maulana Najeeb Qasmi and pray for his long life to Allah. May Allah bless him with more knowledge.

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1. Journey to Medina & Visiting the Masjid of the Prophet and His Holy Grave

Merits of Medina

Medina holds a huge number of merits. Allah and the Prophet have accorded Medina an exalted place in their eyes. We should remember, that it is the city where the Prophet (PBUH) migrated to, lived in and rests there even today. Islam flourished here and reached to the far off corners of the world. Medina is also called 'Taiba' and 'Taba' which translates as 'the pure place'. The reward for all the acts of worship increases to manifold in Medina. Let's see how the Prophet himself praised the city:

1. Ayesha (RA) narrated that the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said, 'O Allah, make us love Medina more than we love Makkah.' (Sahih Bukhari)
2. Anas (RA) narrated that the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said, 'O Allah! Bestow on Medina twice the blessings You bestowed on Makkah.' (Sahin Bukhari)
3. Abdullah ibn Umar (RA) narrated that the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said, 'If a person patiently bears the trouble he has (during his stay in Medina), I will intercede for him on the Day of Judgment', or said, 'I will bear witness for him.'" (Sahih Muslim)
4. Abu Hurairah (RA) narrated that the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said, "If a person from my people remains patient while facing the hunger and harshness

- in Medina and on the troubles there, I will intercede for him on the Day of Judgment.” (Sahih Bukhari)
5. Abu Hurairah (RA) narrated that the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said, "There are angels guarding the roads of Medina; neither plague nor Dajjal will be able to enter it.” (Sahih Bukhari)
 6. Abu Hurairah (RA) narrated that the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said, “Whoever has the means to die in Medina, let him die there for I shall intercede on behalf of everyone who dies there.” (Tirmidhi)
 7. Abu Hurairah (RA) narrated that the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said “Belief (Iman) will return to Medina (near the Last Day) as a snake returns to its hole.” (Sahih Bukhari)
 8. Sa’ad (RA) narrated that the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said, "None plots against the people of Medina but that he will be dissolved (destroyed) like the salt is dissolved in water.” (Sahih Bukhari & Sahih Muslim)
 9. Sa’ad (RA) narrated that the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said, "Medina expels bad people as the bellows removes the impurities of iron.” (Sahih Muslim)

The Virtues of Visiting the Prophet’s (PBUH) Mosque

1. Abu Hurairah (RA) narrated that the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said, "Do not set out on a journey except for three mosques: Al-Masjid al-Haram, my Mosque, and the al-Masjid al-Aqsa.” (Sahih Bukhari)
2. Abdullah ibn Umar (RA) narrated that the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said, “One prayer in my mosque

is better than one thousand prayers in any other mosque except al-Masjid-al-Haram.” (Sahih Muslim) A hadith in Ibne Majah mentions the reward equal to 50,000 (fifty thousand) prayers. The rewards should depend on the sincerity and composure of the prayer.

3. Anas (RA) narrated that the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said, whoever prays forty consecutive prayers in my Mosque, missing no prayer, it will be recorded that he is safe from the Fire, is saved from punishment and is free from hypocrisy. (Tirmidhi, Tabrani & Musnad Ahmad) A few scholars have declared this Hadith as weak (non-reliable) while the others declared it good to argue with. Therefore, make it a point to offer all your prayers in the Masjid of the Prophet during your stay in Medina because it multiplies the reward 1000 times and according to the Hadith recorded by Ibne Majah 50,000 times. Additionally, the abovementioned merit of the consecutive forty prayers will also be achieved.

Clarification: The visit to the grave of the Prophet (PBUH) and offering salutations there are not categorically an essential part of Hajj. However, the visit to the grave of the Prophet (PBUH) and offering salutations and tributes is always fortunate and rewarding. A few scholars decreed it mandatory for those with means.

The virtues of visiting the Holy Grave

1. Abu Hurairah (RA) narrated that the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said, “If someone offers

salutations and sends blessings on me standing by my grave, I hear it myself. And if a person offers salutations and sends blessings from somewhere else then all his needs of the world and of the Hereafter are fulfilled and on the Day of Judgment, I will intercede and witness for him.” (Baihaqi)

2. Abu Hurairah (RA) narrated that the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said, “Whoever offers greetings on me by my grave, Allah communicates it to me and I return the greetings.” (Musnad Ahmad, Abu Dawood)
3. Abdullah ibn Umar (RA) narrated that the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said, “If someone visits my grave, my intercession for him becomes mandatory.” (Dar Qutni, Bazzar)
4. Abdullah ibn Umar (RA) narrated that the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said, “If a person comes to visit me (grave) with no other intention, It becomes my duty to intercede for him.” (Tabrani)
5. Anas (RA) narrated that the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said, “The one who visits my grave with the hope of reward, he will be next to me and I will intercede for him on the Day of Judgment.” (Baihaqi)
6. Abu Hurairah (RA) narrated that the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said, “Do not take my grave as an idol (deity). Allah cursed those who took the graves of the Prophets as idols (deity).” (Musnad Ahmad)

During the entire journey to Medina, recite Durood and Salam profusely. Allah says, “Surely, Allah and His angels send blessings to the Prophet. O you who believe, do pray

Allah to bless him, and send your Salam (prayer for his being in peace) to him in abundance.”(Surah Al-Ahzab,56) The Prophet (PBUH) said, “If a man sends Salat on me once, Allah bestows him with mercy ten times and ten virtues are recorded for him.” (Tirmidhi)

Visiting the Masjid of the Prophet (PBUH)

On arrival in Medina, set your luggage in the residence, clean yourself through bath or ablution (Wudhu), put on a decent dress and head out to the Masjid with all respectful excitement. Enter the Masjid with the right foot first and say the dua of entry. First of all, come to the place between the tomb and the pulpit (*Mimber*). The Prophet (PBUH) said about this place, “What is between my home and pulpit is a flowerbed from the garden of the Paradise.” Offer two Rak’ah of the greetings to the Masjid (Tahiyyatal-Masjid) If this place is already full then pray wherever you find the space. And if Imam has already started the obligatory prayer, join the congregation.

Salat & Salam (Salutation and Prayers)

Having performed two rak’ah of Tahiyyatal-Masjid (greeting to the Masjid), with all respect and reverence, walk to the grave of the Prophet (PBUH). The moment you get to the second screen, you should be able to see three holes. The first hole lets you have a glance at the grave of the Prophet, see through and respectfully present the following salutation;

الصلوة والسلام عليك يا نبي الله
الصلوة والسلام عليك يا خير خلق الله
الصلوة والسلام عليك يا سيد المرسلين

Translation:

Prayer and peace be upon you, O the Messenger of Allah

Prayer and peace be upon you, O the Prophet of Allah

Prayer and peace be upon you, O the Beloved of Allah

Prayer and peace be upon you, O the Best of Allah's creation

Prayer and peace be upon you, O the Leader of the Messengers

Prayer and peace be upon you, O the Seal of the Prophets

It is perfectly okay to recite the salat (*Darood*) recited in the daily prayers. Having presented salutation and blessings on the Prophet (PBUH), move to the next hole which gives you a glimpse of the grave of Abu Bakr Siddique (RA) and recite the following salam:

السلام عليك يا أبا بكر الصديق
السلام عليك يا خليفة رسول الله ﷺ
السلام عليك يا صاحب رسول الله في الغار
السلام عليك يا أول الخلفاء

Translation:

Peace be on you, O Abubakr Siddique

Peace be on you, O the Successor of the Prophet

Peace be on you, O the Companion of the Prophet in the cave

Peace be on you, O the first Caliph of Muslims

Thereafter, move forward to the third hole in the wall and offer greetings on the grave of Umar Farooq (RA) recite the following Salam;

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا أَمِيرَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا عُمَرَ بْنَ الْخَطَّابِ
السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا شَهِيدَ الْمُحَرَّابِ السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا ثَانِيَ الْخُلَفَاءِ

Peace be on you, O Umar ibn Khattab
Peace be on you, O Ameer al-Momineen
Peace be on you, O the Second Caliph
Peace be on you, O the martyr under the niche

Note: Salam is exactly what is mentioned above. Hence, whenever you wish to offer Salam again, just repeat the entire process.

Important Tips

Sometimes pilgrims do not get to stay even for a minute in front of the grave of the Prophet (PBUH) when it is overcrowded. In such circumstances, patiently walk with the queue reciting Salat and when you approach in front of the first hole which gives you a glimpse of the grave of the Prophet (PBUH), briefly offer Salam on the go and then proceed to the second and third whole offering Salam in the same manner to Abu Bakr Siddique (RA) and Umar Farooq (RA) respectively.

Activities to perform in Medina

The pilgrims should consider every second of their stay in Medina incredibly valuable and spend most of the time in the acts of worship. It would be absolutely fortunate to spend time in the Masjid of the Prophet (PBUH). Who knows if another visit would be possible for him or not. Efforts should be made to make sure to offer all the five prayers in the Masjid of the Prophet (PBUH) as it multiplies the reward by 1000 or 50,000. Salat and Salam should be offered as many times as possible. Offering a plenty of *nafl*

(optional prayer) will add more reward to the credit. The avoidance of worthless discussions and quarrels is highly recommended. It is better for pilgrims not to waste their precious time in shopping. No one knows if they will return to the city of the Prophet (PBUH) ever again.

Women's Issues

Women should maintain proper Hijab as no Ihram is prescribed for the visit to Medina. If a woman is having her periods, she should not enter the Masjid of the Prophet (PBUH) to offer Salam. However, she is allowed to offer Salam from outside the Bab Jibreel, Bab-al-Nisa or Bab-al-Baqi. Once her periods are over, she can visit the grave of the Prophet (PBUH) and offer Salam in the proper manner. Since, separate areas are allocated for men and women in the Masjid of the Prophet (PBUH), at the time of the entry, everyone should plan their exit and meeting point in the group.

Return from Medina

The return from the city of the Prophet (PBUH) must be heavy and tearful, but console yourself that even from the thousands of miles, Allah communicates your Salam to the Prophet (PBUH) through angels. At the departing moment, pledge to never digress from the path of Allah, pledge to keep Him happy and pleased, pledge to stick to the way of life of the Prophet (PBUH) throughout the rest of your life and make a promise to preach Allah's religion in the world.

2. Historical Places in Medina

The Masjid of the Prophet

Soon after the Prophet (PBUH) migrated to Medina, he along with his Companions took up the construction of Masjid of the Prophet having already completed the construction of Masjid Quba.

On completion, the Prophet's Masjid stood 105 feet long and 95 feet wide. However, after the conquest of Khaiber in the 7th year of the Hijri calendar, the Prophet (PBUH) further extended it. That extension increased the size of the Masjid to 150 feet both in length and width. The Masjid was extended again in the 17th AH (17 years after Hijra) as the number of Muslims had incredibly grown and the Masjid could not accommodate sufficient number of the Muslims. In the 29th year of Hijri, Uthman (may Allah be pleased with him) further extended the Masjid. After that, a caliph from the Umayyah dynasty, Walid ibn Abdul Malik, made another sizable extension. When this extension was carried out, Umar ibn Abdul Aziz was serving his tenure as the governor of Medina.

Later on, the Turks reconstructed the entire Masjid and they used red stone to add solidity and beauty to the architecture. (The remnants of this beauty and solidity still exist to this day).

With the passage of time, the inflow of pilgrims dramatically increased and the space in the Masjid became insufficient in accommodating all the pilgrims. Eventually, the government of Saudi Arabia initiated another project to further extend the boundaries of the Masjid. The government purchased all the buildings and

settlements in the neighbourhood, demolished them and added them to the vicinity of the Masjid, making this the greatest expansion to date.

The Prophet (PBUH) said, "Do not set out on a journey except for three mosques: Al-Masjid al-Haram, my Mosque, and al-Masjid al-Aqsa." In another Hadith, the Prophet is reported to have said, "One prayer in my mosque is better than one thousand prayers in any other mosque except al-Masjid-al-Haram." Another narration mentions the reward equal to 50,000 (fifty thousand) prayers. The rewards should depend on the sincerity and composure of the prayer.

The chamber of the Prophet (PBUH)

The Prophet (PBUH) lived a decade of his life in Medina. Even after the conquest of Makkah in the 8th year of Hijri, he continued to reside in Medina. After he passed away, he was laid to rest in a grave as instructed by him in the chamber of Aisha (may Allah be pleased with her). He had breathed his last in the same chamber. Abu Bakr al-Siddique and Umer al-Farooq (may Allah be pleased with them) were put buried there. While visiting the Prophet's Masjid, pilgrims offer Salat and Salam standing outside this chamber. The side of the chamber that faces the direction of the Ka'ba has three windows with screens. There are three holes in the second window. The first hole, which is the largest, overlooks the heavenly abode of the Prophet (PBUH). The second overlooks the final abode of Abu Bakr al-Siddique (may Allah be pleased with him) and the final hole shows the grave of Umer al-Farooq (may Allah be pleased with him).

Riyadh al-Jannah (Flowerbed from Paradise)

In the old part of the Prophet's Masjid, the place between the pulpit and the tomb is called Riyadh al-Jannah (the flowerbed from Paradise). There are marble pillars erected to mark Riyadh al-Jannah. All the pillars are named. Performing prayers in Riyadh al-Jannah entails extra reward and the place is known for the quick acceptance of prayers made in there.

The Shed of Ashab al-Suffah

Behind the chamber of the Prophet is a small shed. This portion was designated for the residence and education of the homeless Companions who would engage themselves in acquiring knowledge from the Prophet (PBUH) and remained busy in recitation and prayers. Abu Hurairah (may Allah be pleased with him) is one of the bright alumni of this school. The number of learners and residents of Suffah constantly kept changing. Sometimes, as many as 80 persons would live there. Verse 28 in Surat Al-Kahf has been revealed to praise the learners of Suffah which recommends the Prophet to sit with them.

Jannat al-Baqia (Baqi-al-Gharqad)

The cemetery of Medina, Jannat al-Baqia, is located just beside the Prophet's Masjid. This cemetery is a heavenly abode to a significant number of the Companions and great spiritual personalities i.e. about 10,000. This cemetery holds great personalities including, third caliph Uthman Ghani, all four daughters of the Prophet, the wives of the Prophet, his uncle Abbas (may Allah be pleased with them) and many others.

Mount Uhud

This mountain is located about 4-5 kilometres from Prophet's Masjid to the north of Medina, and is the mountain that the Prophet (PBUH) expressed his love for, saying, "This mountain loves us and we love it too." (Sahih Bukhari and Muslim) The battle of Uhud took place in the 3rd year of Hijri right in front of this mountain where Rasulullah (PBUH) suffered a wound and 70 of his Companions were martyred. All the martyrs were buried there. Fences are now set up around these graves. Within these fences, there rests the Prophet's Uncle Hamza, with Abdullah ibn Jahash and Mus'ab ibn Umair (may Allah be pleased with them). The Prophet used to visit this to pray for the martyrs.

Masjid Quba

It is located about four kilometres from the Prophet's Masjid. This is the first Masjid to be built in Islamic history. When the Prophet migrated from Makkah to Medina, he stayed with the tribe of Banu Auf. During this time, the Prophet laid the foundation of Masjid Quba. Allah (SWT) described this Masjid as 'a Masjid built out of piety'. It is ranked fourth highest in merit after Masjid Haram, the Masjid of the Prophet and Masjid Al-Aqsa. Rasulullah (PBUH) used to walk or ride to Masjid Quba. Rasulullah (PBUH) gave the news that, "If someone comes out of his house into this Masjid to offer prayer, he will have a reward equal to the reward of an Umrah."

Masjid Al-Jumaa

This Masjid holds the honour of being the first Masjid in Islamic history where the Prophet (PBUH) conducted the Jumaa prayer. It is located near Masjid Quba.

Masjid Al-Fath (Masjid al-Ahzab)

This was originally built on a steep hillock on the west end of Jabal al-Sila'. In the Battle of Trench, when disbelievers collectively attacked Medina, the Prophet (PBUH) prayed to Allah in this masjid, and the Muslims emerged victorious finally. There were also many small mosques in Masjid al-Fathi's neighbourhood. Historically, these were the places where the Companions camped during the Battle of Trench. Umar ibn Abdul Aziz probably ordered to build the mosques there to preserve the history associated to the place and commemorate the bravery and courage of the Companions. This place also came to be known as Masajid Khamsa (the five masjids). Presently, there stands a magnificent Masjid known as Masjid al-Khandaq, and was built by the order of the Saudi Arabian government.

Masjid Al-Qiblatayn

The command to change the direction of prayer came in the middle of Asr Salah. A Companion who had performed prayer with the Prophet (PBUH), thereafter, passed by a group of Ansar performing their Asr prayer facing Bait al-Maqdis. He informed them, while they were in prayer, that Allah reverted Ka'bah as the centre of the prayer. Hearing this, they turned to face Ka'bah while in the middle of their prayer. That is why it is named Masjid Al-Qiblatayn (The masjid with two centres). According to a few other sources, the command to change the direction of the prayer was revealed in this Masjid during Asr-prayer.

Masjid Ubayy ibn Ka'b

This Masjid stands next to Jannat al-Baqi. In this Masjid, Ubayy ibn Ka'b, who was famous for his melodious and

soulful recitation of the Holy Qur'an, led the prayers there. Rasulullah (PBUH) used to come for prayers, as well as, to recite to Ubayy ibn Ka'b and to listen to his recitation of the Holy Quran.

Author's Introduction

Dr. Mohammad Najeeb Qasmi is an alumnus of Darul Uloom Deoband and Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. Beside hundreds of short Islamic articles that he keeps contributing to various websites, daily newspapers and monthly magazines, he has authored so far 16 books in Urdu and his 14 books have been translated into English & Hindi. He also organizes Hajj Orientation programme once in a year at Riyadh, Saudi Arabia to provide accurate guidance to the pilgrims.

He belongs to an educated family of Sambhal, UP, India. His grandfather Maulana Mohammad Ismail Sambhali was a freedom fighter and a renowned scholar of *Hadith*. He taught *Bukhari* for 17 years in different institutes of India, whereas his maternal grandfather Mufti Musharraf Hussain worked in various Madaris in India as chief Mufti and *Muhaddith*.

After completing Islamic studies and theology at Darul Uloom Deoband in 1994, Dr. Najeeb Qasmi joined Jamia Millia Islamia University (JMI), New Delhi where he graduated in Arabic and two courses of translation (Arabic into Eng & Vice Versa). He also completed MA in Arabic from Delhi University (DU).

Dr. Mohammad Najeeb Qasmi has been awarded PhD from JMI in 2014 on the topic **الجوانب الأدبية والبلاغية والجمالية النبوي من الصحيحين في الحديث** under the supervision of Prof. Shafiq Ahmad Khan Nadwi & Prof. R. I. Faynan. Dr. Najeeb Qasmi has been working in Riyadh since 1999.

The mobile application ([Deen-e-Islam](http://www.najeebqasmi.com)) of his website (www.najeebqasmi.com) is spreading the message of Islam in Urdu, Hindi & English languages. This App is a collection of his 200 articles on different topics, 100 speeches and seven books. This App is available in Play Store as well as Apple Store which can be easily downloaded to a supporting device within 2 minutes even in urban and rural areas of India & Pakistan.

A similar App for Hajj and Umrah ([Hajj-e-Mabroor](http://www.najeebqasmi.com)) is also launched. All the issues related to Hajj and Umrah are presented through this App in Urdu, English and Hindi. Once the App is installed, pilgrims will no longer need to carry books of Hajj and Umrah. They can get information using that App and perform their Hajj or Umrah in Sunnah way. The App includes nine speeches, a presentation on how to perform Hajj and Umrah and 23 articles. If App is installed in the mobile phone, pilgrims can use it while being in Makkah, Mina, Muzdalfah and Arafat.

Various famous Ulemas of Indo-Pak, religious institutions and professors of several universities have also recommended to use both Apps (First Islamic mobile Apps of the world in three languages) by writing testimonials in favour of it.

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AUTHOR'S BOOKS



IN URDU LANGUAGE:

حج مبرور، مختصر حج مبرور، حج علی الصلاۃ، عمرہ کا طریقہ، تحفہ رمضان، معلومات قرآن، اصلاحی مضامین جلد ۱،
اصلاحی مضامین جلد ۲، قرآن وحدیث: شریعت کے دواہم ماخذ، سیرت النبی ﷺ کے چند پہلو،
زکوٰۃ وصدقات کے مسائل، فیملی مسائل، حقوق انسان اور معاملات، تاریخ کی چند اہم شخصیات، علم و ذکر

IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE:

Quran & Hadith - Main Sources of Islamic Ideology
Diverse Aspects of Seerat-un-Nabi
Come to Prayer, Come to Success
Ramadan - A Gift from the Creator
Guidance Regarding Zakat & Sadaqaat
A Concise Hajj Guide
Hajj & Umrah Guide
How to perform Umrah?
Family Affairs in the Light of Quran & Hadith
Rights of People & their Dealings
Important Persons & Places in the History
An Anthology of Reformative Essays
Knowledge and Remembrance

IN HINDI LANGUAGE:

کوران اور ہدیس - اسلامی آئیڈیالوجی کے مین سورس
سیرت النبی کے مختلف پہلو
نماز کے لیے آئیو، سफलता के लिए आओ
रमजान - अल्लाह का एक उपहार
जकात और सदाकात के बारे में गाइडेंस
हज और उमराह गाइड
मुख्तसर हज्जे मबरूर
उमराह का तरीका
पारिवारिक मामले कुरान और हदीस की रोशनी में
लोगों के अधिकार और उनके मामलात
महत्वपूर्ण व्यक्ति और स्थान
सुधारात्मक निबंध का एक संकलन
इल्म और जिक्र



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DEEN-E-ISLAM

HAJJ-E-MABROOR